

money that we would spend if we didn't need to spend it.

We worked closely with WHO, CDC and USAID, and the overall global number is derived from Stop TB Partnership's Global Plan to Stop TB 2006 through 2015, of which WHO is a partner and USAID is the current Chair of the Stop TB Partnership's coordinating board. The plan is well documented, detailed, costed out, and again, builds up from country estimates and was reviewed in an exhaustive process.

Finally and furthermore, the World Health Organization developed and released a "Global MDR-TB and XDR-TB Response Plan" that supplements the need calculated by the Global Plan's need in light of the outbreak of drug-resistant TB.

USAID and the CDC work together globally and both have agreed to this coordination of funding, and again, we have a ceiling of what we spend and not a floor.

So, again, I thank my colleague.

Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1567, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EURASIA FOUNDATION ACT

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2949) to authorize grants to the Eurasia Foundation, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2949

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Eurasia Foundation Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) There has been established in the District of Columbia a private, nonprofit corporation known as the Eurasia Foundation (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Foundation"), which is not an agency or establishment of the United States Government.

(2) In recognition of the valuable contributions of the Foundation to long-range United States foreign policy interests, the United States Government has, through the United States Agency for International Development and the Department of State, provided financial support for the Foundation.

(3) It is in the interest of the United States, and the further strengthening of cooperation with the countries of Eurasia, to establish a more permanent mechanism for United States Government financial support

for the ongoing activities of the Foundation, while preserving the independent character of the Foundation.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Foundation are—

(1) to promote civil society, private enterprise, and sound public administration and policy in the countries of Eurasia and in lending encouragement and assistance to citizens of such countries in their own efforts to develop more open, just, and democratic societies;

(2) to strengthen indigenous institutions that foster national development, constructive social change, equitable economic growth, and cooperative international relationships that are fully consistent with and supportive of long-term United States interests with respect to the countries of Eurasia; and

(3) to conduct programs in response to initiatives in the countries of Eurasia that would be difficult or impossible for an official United States entity, and, as a result of its position in the countries of Eurasia, to respond quickly and flexibly to meet new opportunities.

SEC. 3. GRANTS TO THE FOUNDATION.

(a) GRANTS REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall make an annual grant to the Foundation to enable the Foundation to carry out its purposes as specified in section 2(b).

(2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—Each grant required under paragraph (1)—

(A) shall be made with funds specifically appropriated for grants to the Foundation; and

(B) shall be made pursuant to a grant agreement between the Secretary and the Foundation which—

(i) requires that grant funds will only be used for activities the Board of Directors of the Foundation determines are consistent with the purposes described in section 2(b), and that the Foundation will otherwise comply with the requirements of this Act; and

(ii) may not require the Foundation to comply with requirements other than those specified in this Act.

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—The Foundation may use funds received under a grant described in subsection (a) to carry out the purposes described in section 2(b).

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to make the Foundation an agency or establishment of the United States Government or to make the members of the Board of Directors of the Foundation, or the officers or employees of the Foundation, officers or employees of the United States.

(d) OVERSIGHT.—The Foundation and its grantees shall be subject to the appropriate oversight procedures of Congress.

(e) OTHER FUNDING.—The Foundation shall have authority to accept funding from non-United States Government sources to complement United States Government funding.

(f) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) a robust Foundation, funded at the levels authorized under section 6 of this Act, and at appropriate levels in subsequent fiscal years, can contribute significantly to the political, economic, and social development of democracy and human rights in the countries of Eurasia;

(2) notwithstanding the Foundation's distinguished record of performance, organizations that seek competitive grants typically perform in a more transparent and effective manner; and

(3) to the maximum extent possible, the Foundation should seek competitive grants to supplement appropriations from the United States Government, and at least 20

percent of the funding received in each fiscal year by the Foundation should be from non-United States Government sources to ensure continued strong performance of the Foundation.

SEC. 4. ELIGIBILITY OF THE FOUNDATION FOR GRANTS.

(a) COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS.—Grants may be made to the Foundation under this Act only if the Foundation agrees to comply with the requirements specified in this section and elsewhere in this Act.

(b) FUNDING FOR COVERED PROGRAMS ONLY.—The Foundation may provide funding only for programs that are consistent with the purposes set forth in section 2(b).

(c) COMPENSATION FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE FOUNDATION.—If an individual who is an officer or employee of the United States Government serves as a member of the Board of Directors or as an officer or employee of the Foundation, that individual may not receive any compensation or travel expenses in connection with service performed for the Foundation.

(d) PROHIBITION RESPECTING FINANCIAL MATTERS.—The Foundation shall not issue any shares of stock or declare or pay any dividends. No part of the assets of the Foundation shall inure to the benefit of any member of the Board of Directors of the Foundation, any officer or employee of the Foundation, or any other individual, except as salary or reasonable compensation for expenses incurred in the performance of duties to the Foundation.

(e) AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS; REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS.—The accounts of the Foundation shall be audited annually in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by independent certified public accountants or independent licensed public accountants certified or licensed by a regulatory authority of a State or other political subdivision of the United States.

(2) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The report of each such independent audit shall be included in the annual report required by subsection (h) of this section. The audit report shall set forth the scope of the audit and include such statements as are necessary to present fairly the Foundation's assets and liabilities, surplus or deficit, with an analysis of the changes therein during the year, supplemented in reasonable detail by a statement of the Foundation's income and expenses during the year, and a statement of the application of funds, together with the independent auditor's opinion of those statements.

(f) AUDIT OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS.—

(1) AUDIT OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS.—The financial transactions of the Foundation for each fiscal year may be audited by the Government Accountability Office in accordance with such principles and procedures and under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States.

(2) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—A report of each such audit shall be made by the Comptroller General to the Congress. The report to the Congress shall contain such comments and information as the Comptroller General may deem necessary to inform the Congress of the financial operations and condition of the Foundation, together with such recommendations with respect thereto as the Comptroller General may deem advisable. A copy of each report shall be furnished to the President and to the Foundation at the time submitted to the Congress.

(g) RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS; AUDIT AND EXAMINATION OF BOOKS.—

(1) RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS.—The Foundation shall ensure that each recipient

of assistance provided through the Foundation under this Act keeps such records as may be reasonably necessary to fully disclose the amount and the disposition by such recipient of the proceeds of such assistance, the total cost of the project or undertaking in connection with which such assistance is given or used, and the amount and nature of that portion of the cost of the project or undertaking supplied by other sources, and such other records as will facilitate an effective audit.

(2) **AUDIT AND EXAMINATION OF BOOKS.**—The Foundation shall ensure that it, or any of its duly authorized representatives, shall have access for the purpose of audit and examination to any books, documents, papers, and records of the recipient that are pertinent to assistance provided through the Foundation under this Act. The Comptroller General of the United States or any duly authorized representative of the Comptroller General shall also have access thereto for such purpose.

(h) **ANNUAL REPORT; TESTIMONY RELATING TO REPORT.**—

(1) **ANNUAL REPORT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than March 31 of each year, the Foundation shall submit an annual report for the preceding fiscal year to the President for transmittal to the Congress.

(B) **CONTENTS.**—The report required under subparagraph (A) shall include a comprehensive and detailed report of the Foundation's operations, activities, financial condition, and accomplishments under this Act and may include such recommendations as the Foundation deems appropriate. The report should also include any information regarding allegations or reports on the misuse of funds and how such allegations or reports were addressed by the Foundation.

(2) **TESTIMONY RELATING TO REPORT.**—The Board members and officers of the Foundation shall be available to testify before appropriate committees of the Congress with respect to the report required under paragraph (1), the report of any audit made by the Comptroller General of the United States pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, or any other matter which any such committees may determine.

(i) **GRANTEE; CONFLICT OF INTEREST.**—A member of the Board of Directors of the Foundation who serves as a member of the board of directors or an officer of a grantee of the Foundation may not receive compensation for their services but shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel and other expenses incurred by them in connection with their duties on behalf of such grantee.

SEC. 5. AGREEMENT BETWEEN FOUNDATION AND SUCCESSOR OR RELATED ENTITY TO THE U.S. RUSSIA INVESTMENT FUND.

(a) **AGREEMENT REQUIRED.**—The Foundation and any successor or related entity to the U.S. Russia Investment Fund shall enter into a memorandum of understanding for the purpose of coordinating activities carried out by the Foundation and the successor or related entity. The memorandum of understanding shall include language that prohibits the same entities from carrying out the same activities.

(b) **DEADLINE.**—The memorandum of understanding described in subsection (a) shall be entered into between the Foundation and the successor or related entity described in subsection (a) by not later than the later of the following:

(1) If the successor or related entity is established on or before the date of the enactment of this Act, 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) If the successor or related entity is established after the date of the enactment of this Act, 90 days after the date on which the entity is established.

(c) **SUBMISSION TO SECRETARY OF STATE AND CONGRESS.**—The Foundation and the successor or related entity described in subsection (a) shall submit to the Secretary of State and Congress a copy of the memorandum of understanding described in subsection (a) not later than 30 days after the date on which the parties enter into the memorandum of understanding.

(d) **LIMITATIONS.**—For the period beginning on the date on which the successor or related entity described in subsection (a) is established, or the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever occurs later, and ending on the date on which the memorandum of understanding described in subsection (a) is entered into—

(1) United States assistance may not be provided to the Foundation under any other provision of law; and

(2) funds may not be transferred from the U.S. Russia Investment Fund to the successor or related entity or placed in a trust on behalf of the successor or related entity.

(e) **SUCCESSOR OR RELATED ENTITY TO THE U.S. RUSSIA INVESTMENT FUND DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “successor or related entity to the U.S. Russia Investment Fund” or “successor or related entity” means any organization, corporation, limited-liability partnership, foundation, or other corporate structure that receives any or all of the remaining funds of the U.S. Russia Investment Fund after liquidation of assets upon closure of the U.S. Russia Investment Fund.

SEC. 6. COUNTRIES OF EURASIA DEFINED.

In this Act, the term “countries of Eurasia” means Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009.

(b) **AVAILABILITY.**—Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriation under subsection (a) are authorized to remain available for 2 years from the end of the fiscal year for which the amount was appropriated.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill, and I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Let me first thank my good friend and colleague, the chairman of the Europe Subcommittee, Mr. WEXLER from Florida, for introducing this important bill.

The Eurasia Foundation has been a key U.S. government partner in the ongoing effort to promote democracy, ex-

pand economic opportunities, and facilitate government reform in countries that formerly comprised the Soviet Union.

Created in 1992 with bipartisan support, the Eurasia Foundation has invested over \$360 million in Russia, the Caucasus, and Central Asia in programs that have complemented United States goals for participatory government and active citizenry in this region.

In addition, the Eurasia Foundation has been able to leverage significant private sector funding, in main part due to the annual funding support from the U.S. Government.

This bill seeks to enhance those efforts by recognizing the Eurasia Foundation as a distinct and independent entity that could continue to raise private capital while under a U.S. Government authorization.

Vital work remains unfinished in this part of the world. It is clear that political and economic stability in Eurasia will have a direct impact on the security of the United States.

For these reasons, it's imperative that we continue to support programs such as those conducted by the Eurasia Foundation.

I strongly support this legislation and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Eurasia Foundation has reportedly done some good work over the past few years of the region of the former Soviet Union. Because the aid programs for the countries of that region from which the foundation has received its funding are now closing down, the issue before us is whether that foundation should be authorized to continue to receive funds directly from the U.S. in order to continue its democracy promotion work independently. I suspect that for many of us in this House the answer would be yes.

Just as we have had an Asia foundation, it is possible to see the work of funding this kind of foundation to do democracy promotion in Eurasia.

□ 1430

The passage of this bill, H.R. 2949, would help ensure that funding.

At the request of Members from our side of the aisle and the Foreign Affairs Committee, this bill has been amended in committee to try to address a significant problem that is not directly related to the Eurasia Foundation but that is an issue of importance to the wise use of our United States Government funds if they are appropriated to the foundation under this bill in the future.

Independent of the Eurasia Foundation, our United States Government-funded Enterprise Fund in Russia, the major state of that region, is closing down and is seeking to use the hundreds of millions of dollars from the

sale of its assets to fund democracy promotion, civil society and rule-of-law programs in Russia, as well as economic reform efforts.

At the same time, we have democracy promotion programs under way across Russia and the rest of the region, through the National Endowment for Democracy, the National Democratic Institute, and the International Republican Institute.

So there is obviously a possibility that duplications of efforts will take place unless this Congress finds ways to ensure that it doesn't. We don't want to see U.S. Government-funded organizations compete to do the same kinds of activities if that leads to duplication and waste, and the democracy promotion in that region is too important to see money wasted at a time when Russian President Putin and others are forcing their own brand of authoritarian government on their nations.

This measure has been amended in a way that seeks to mandate that any successor to the U.S. Government-funded Enterprise Fund in Russia has to reach an agreement with the Eurasia Foundation before it engages in any democracy promotion efforts in that country. Hopefully, that will eliminate duplication to some degree.

The bill, as amended, does not go as far as some of us would like, I must note. It does not address the similar situation that will arise in the Ukraine in the next few years when our U.S. Government-funded Enterprise Fund there closes down and seeks to set up its own successor foundation that may, once again, end up duplicating the work done by the Eurasia Foundation in the Ukraine.

It also does not address a completely separate question about how the assets of such U.S. Government-funded Enterprise Funds in Russia and Ukraine will be disposed of, an issue that involves hundreds of millions of dollars in U.S. taxpayer funds. It has been the practice to ensure that the taxpayers get back at least 50 percent of the funds held by such funds when they close down their operations.

There is an effort in the House-passed fiscal year 2008 foreign aid appropriations bill, however, to allow our fund in Russia not to turn back to our Treasury half of its assets. That would mean that the taxpayers would lose \$160 million, or perhaps even more than that, depending on the value of the assets sold in the case of the Russia fund alone. Those are monies that might otherwise go to help fund other worthwhile programs.

Perhaps this is not the bill in which to debate that issue, and our efforts in committee to address it in this measure were unsuccessful. But I take this opportunity to point out that issue in the hopes that the administration will be supported by Congress in its efforts to follow current practice and ensure that our Treasury gets back that very significant sum of money.

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2949, authorizing 15 million dollars in appropriations to the Eurasia Foundation for Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009. This legislation will enable the Eurasia Foundation—which has been operating in the former Soviet Union since 1992—to continue to engage at the highest level in democracy building, civil society promotion and private sector expansion.

I wish to thank Chairman LANTOS and Ranking Member ROS-LEHTINEN for their support of this legislation, as well as Congressman GALLEGLY who was the lead sponsor of this legislation in the 109th Congress. All of these Members have been tireless advocates for providing critical aid and support to former Soviet countries.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation comes at a critical time in our relations with Eurasian states that are still in political, economic and social transition following the collapse of the Soviet Union. It is also coming at a time when U.S. aid to the region is unconscionably shrinking. To this end, organizations such as the Eurasia Foundation are critical components of our strategy to remain engaged at governmental and non-governmental levels in a region that stretches from Armenia to Uzbekistan and from Ukraine to Kazakhstan.

This legislation recognizes the important work being done by the Eurasia Foundation and its efforts to promote civil society, public administration and rule of law—in a region of the world that needs America's attention, assistance and support. Passage of H.R. 2949 today will provide the Eurasia Foundation—a partner of the U.S.—the funds it needs to continue to issue thousands of grants and operate programs in Eurasia that have proven to be effective over fourteen years.

Again, I want to thank Chairman LANTOS and Ranking Member ROS-LEHTINEN for supporting this important legislation and urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation when it comes to the floor for a vote.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2949, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING NICOLAS SARKOZY ON HIS ELECTION TO THE PRESIDENCY OF FRANCE

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 379) congratulating

Nicolas Sarkozy on his election to the presidency of France, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 379

Whereas the Marquis de Lafayette and the people of France offered unparalleled friendship to the people of the United States in their pursuit of freedom and democracy during the American Revolution;

Whereas there are deep cultural ties between the American and French people, as exemplified by the large flow of visitors each year between the two nations, as well as extensive exchanges between United States and French academic institutions, museums, and sister cities;

Whereas the United States is France's 6th largest export market, and its top export market outside of the European Union, and for the United States, France is its 9th largest trading partner, and the United States is the largest foreign investor in France;

Whereas the United States and France are working together to solve important international crises;

Whereas Nicolas Sarkozy, upon winning the election to become the next President of France, said that the United States can count on France as a friend; and

Whereas the people of the United States support any effort by the Governments of France and the United States to maintain and grow a spirit of friendship and cooperation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates Mr. Nicolas Sarkozy on his election to the presidency of France and welcomes President Sarkozy on the occasion of his appearance before a Joint Meeting of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution and yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would first like to commend our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE), for introducing this important resolution that congratulates Mr. Sarkozy on being elected the next President of France.

Over two centuries ago, the people of France assisted the people of the United States in their pursuit of independence during the American Revolution. Since then, the U.S. and France have shared an extensive and mutually beneficial relationship. Today, the United States and France are major economic partners, with nearly \$1 billion in trade taking place between the two countries each and every day.